

THOMAS BOREMAN AGAIN

In the September, 1939, issue of this JOURNAL, reference was made to the entomology of Thomas Boreman's natural histories, based upon such editions as I was able to locate. Following its publication, Mr. Albert E. Lownes, of Providence, Rhode Island, called my attention to the 1730 edition of Boreman, in his possession, and kindly permitted me to examine it. The complete title is "A Description of Three Hundred Animals; viz. Beasts, Birds, Fishes, Serpents, and Insects. With a Particular Account of the Whale-Fishery. Extracted out of the Best Authors, and adapted to the Use of all Capacities; especially to allow Children to Read. Illustrated with Copper Plates, whereon is curiously Engraved every Beast, Bird, Fish, Serpent, and Insect, describ'd in the whole Book. *For every Beast of the Forest is mine, and the Cattle upon a thousand Hills. I know all the Fowls of the Mountains, and the wild Beasts of the Field are mine.* London, Printed by J. T. for Rich. Ware at the Bible and Sun in Amen-Corner, Thos. Boreman the Corner of St. Clement's Lane without Temple-Bar, and Tho. Game at the Bible in Prince's-street, against Stanhope-street End. M.DCC.XXX." (1-9), (1)—213 p. frontis. 1 fold. plate. illustrations. 16.8 cm. \times 9.7 cm.

In my original paper, I ventured the opinion that, in all likelihood, the eleventh edition of 1774 did not differ materially from the 1730 edition. So far as the entomological portion of the book is concerned, this is substantially correct. A comparison of the two shows that they are alike almost word for word. The only change seems to be in the remedy for scorpion stings. In the 1730 edition the remedy is a piece of copper immediately "clapt to the wound." After remaining a while it is removed and the place is annointed with honey and vinegar. In the 1774 edition, oil, in which the scorpion has been infused, is said to be effective. And in addition, it is stated that if the scorpion is surrounded by a circle of burning coals, finding itself unable to escape the pain of the fire, it stings itself two or three times and immediately dies.

In the preface or statement to the reader in the 1730 edition, it is definitely brought out that the book is a compilation designed to interest children and then the compiler says, "If this brief Essay shall any ways contribute to the End propos'd, let God have the Glory, and the Compiler the good Wishes and Prayers of Parents."

I do not know why Boreman's name should be connected with these natural histories in the bibliographies. Perhaps there is something on record naming him as the compiler, rather than Richard Ware or Tho. Game, with whom he was associated in publication ventures.—H. B. W.